



### **Trading scrubs for CEO title, former nurse builds a S.C. small business serving the nation's medical transcription needs.**

Deborah Gause of Myrtle Beach business AccuStat EMR, a medical transcriptions company, is the 2007 SBA South Carolina runner-up Small Business Person of the Year.

After 13 years in the nursing field, Gause started her own medical transcription business, AccuStat EMR, out of her home in 2002; Gause, then a single mother of two, wanted the flexibility and quality of life that the demands of nursing could not afford her. In only four years, AccuStat has burgeoned into an Electronic Medical Records (EMR) company able to fulfill EMR hardware, software, networking training and support needs for medical facilities, legal offices and hospitals all over the nation. In 2005, Gause moved her business into a 2000 square foot office in order to hire employees and handle the increasing demand for AccuStat's services. AccuStat has experienced a growth rate of 508 percent since its first year and now has eight local employees and more than one thousand independent contractors throughout the nation.

Gause received assistance in expanding her business from the South Carolina Women's Business Center (SCWBC), a resource partner of the SBA that provides free and confidential small business counseling. The SCWBC worked with her to obtain a business loan and with marketing and market research.

As a working mother, Gause recognizes the importance of childcare. The AccuStat office has a large child-friendly room so that she and her employees can bring their children to work if necessary, and employees are allowed ample time for their children's needs. Many of AccuStat's independent contractors are single or stay-at-home mothers. AccuStat also developed the non-profit Sarena's Friends fund in partnership with federally funded program Protect. Sarena's Friends is a legal defense fund for sexually assaulted children. Accustat also works with these children's parents by supplying home-based jobs, which allows them to better protect their children.

Recently, Gause started print production of Coastal Medicine, a medical journal bringing awareness to the medical research and news of the Grand Strand area.

Gause was nominated by SCWBC Business Consultant Sarah Young.